



**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES  
DEPARTMENT OF AUDITOR-CONTROLLER**

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August 18, 2009

TO: Supervisor Don Knabe, Chairman  
Supervisor Gloria Molina  
Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas  
Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky  
Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich

FROM: Wendy L. Watanabe  
Auditor-Controller

SUBJECT: **GROUP HOME PROGRAM MONITORING REPORT – DELIANN-  
LUCILE CORPORATION – DELILU ACHIEVEMENT HOME**

We have completed a review of DeliLu Achievement Home (Group Home or Agency) operated by Deliann-Lucile Corporation. The Group Home contracts with the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) and the Probation Department.

DeliLu Achievement Home is an eight-bed facility, which provides care for girls ages 11-17 years who exhibit behavioral, social and emotional difficulties. At the time of the monitoring review, the Group Home was providing services for five Probation and three DCFS children.

The Group Home is located in the Second District.

**Scope of Review**

The purpose of our review is to determine whether the Agency is providing the services as outlined in their Program Statement. In addition, the review covers basic child safety and licensing issues and includes an evaluation of the Agency's Program Statement, internal policies and procedures, child case records, employee records, a facility inspection and interviews with children placed in the Group Home at the time of the review. Interviews with children are designed to obtain their perspectives on the program services provided by the Agency and to ensure adherence to the Foster Youth Bill of Rights.

### **Summary of Findings**

Generally, the Agency is providing the services as outlined in their Program Statement. However, the Agency needs to address a few deficient areas. Specifically, the Group Home needs to maintain current court authorizations for all children taking psychotropic medications and ensure that all staff treat children with respect and dignity.

Attached is a detailed report of the review.

### **Review of Report**

We discussed our report with the Agency's management. In response to the recommendations made in the report, the Agency's management completed a corrective action plan (attached) which we approved.

We thank the management and staff for their cooperation during our review.

If you have any questions, please contact me or have your staff contact Don Chadwick at (213) 253-0301.

WLW:MMO:JET:DC:AA:CC:asl

Attachment

c: William T Fujioka, Chief Executive Officer  
Patricia S. Ploehn, Director, DCFS  
Ted Myers, Chief Deputy Director, DCFS  
Susan Kerr, Senior Deputy Director, DCFS  
Robert B. Taylor, Chief Probation Officer  
Misha L. Slade, Board President, Deliann-Lucile Corporation  
Mary Davis, Executive Director, Deliann-Lucile Corporation  
Public Information Office  
Audit Committee

**Deliann-Lucile Corporation  
DeliLu Achievement Home  
Los Angeles, California 90018  
License Number: 198203559  
Rate Classification Level: 12**

**I. Facility and Environment**

**Method of assessment – Observation**

**Comments:**

DeliLu Achievement Home (Group Home or Agency) is located in a residential community. The exterior of the Group Home is well maintained. The front and back yards are clean and adequately landscaped.

The interior of the Group Home is well maintained. The common quarters are neat and clean. There is adequate furniture and lighting in the Group Home. The Group Home provides a home-like environment.

Children's bedrooms are well maintained. The rooms are clean, orderly and have age-appropriate personalized decorations. There is adequate furniture, lighting and storage space. Window coverings and window screens are in good repair. The mattresses are comfortable, the beds all have a full complement of linens, and the children's sleeping arrangements are appropriate.

The Group Home maintains age-appropriate and accessible recreational equipment. There are also board games, a TV and a DVD player. Books and resource materials, including a computer with a variety of programs, are also available.

The Group Home maintains a sufficient supply of perishable and non perishable foods.

**Recommendation**

**None.**

**II. Program Services**

**Method of assessment – Review of relevant documents and interviews**

**Sample size: Three**

**Comments:**

Children meet the Group Home’s population criteria as outlined in their Program Statement. Children are assessed for needed services within thirty days of placement. Case files reflect adequate documentation to show that children are receiving treatment services.

The treatment team develops and implements Needs and Services Plans (NSPs) with input from the child and the NSPs are current, comprehensive and include short and long term goals.

**Recommendation**

**None.**

**III. Educational and Emancipation Services**

**Method of assessment – Review of relevant documents and interviews**

**Sample size: Three**

**Comments:**

Children are attending school, are provided with educational support and resources to meet their educational needs and are progressing satisfactorily in school. The Group Home’s program includes the development of children’s daily living, self-help and survival skills. Children are also provided with opportunities to participate in emancipation and vocational programs as appropriate.

**Recommendation**

**None.**

**IV. Recreation and Activities**

**Method of assessment – Review of relevant documents and interviews**

**Sample size: Three**

**Comments:**

The Group Home provides children with sufficient recreational activities and leisure time. Children are provided with opportunities to participate in planning activities. Children also participate in extra-curricular, enrichment and social activities in which they have an interest. The Group Home provides transportation to and from the activities.

**Recommendation**

None.

**V. Psychotropic Medication****Method of assessment – Review of relevant documents****Comments:**

The medication distribution logs are properly maintained. The children are routinely seen by the prescribing psychiatrist, are informed about their psychotropic medication and are aware of their right to refuse medication. However, the children do not have current court authorizations for the psychotropic medications they are taking.

**Recommendation**

1. Deliann-Lucile Group Home management maintain current court authorizations for all children taking psychotropic medications.

**VI. Personal Rights****Method of assessment – Interviews with children****Sample size: Three****Comments:**

Children are informed about the Group Home's policies and procedures. Children feel safe in the Group Home and are provided with appropriate staff supervision. However, children express a lack of satisfaction with the quality of their interactions with staff and report that the staff often uses profanity while interacting with them.

Children are assigned chores that are reasonable and not too demanding. Children are allowed to make and receive personal telephone calls, send and receive unopened mail, have private visitors and attend religious services of their choice.

The discipline policies are consistently enforced and there are fair and appropriate consequences for inappropriate behavior.

Children are satisfied with the meals and snacks. Children also receive voluntary medical, dental and psychiatric care.

**Recommendation**

2. Deliann-Lucile Group Home management ensure that all staff treat children with respect and dignity and monitor their interactions.

**VII. Clothing and Allowance**

**Method of assessment – Review of relevant documents and interviews**

**Sample size: Three**

**Comments:**

The Group Home provides appropriate clothing, items of necessity and the required \$50 monthly clothing allowance to children. Children are provided with opportunities to select their own clothes and the clothing provided is of good quality and of sufficient quantity.

The Group Home provides children with the required minimum weekly allowance and the children spend their allowances as they choose. The Group Home provides children with adequate personal care items. The children are also encouraged and assisted in creating and maintaining photo albums/life books.

**Recommendation**

**None.**

**VIII. Personnel Background Checks**

**Method of assessment – Review of relevant documents**

**Sample size: Nine**

**Comments:**

The Group Home has obtained the required criminal and child abuse clearances for their employees.

**Recommendation**

**None.**



**Delilu Achievement Home**  
Mary L. Davis, Director/Administrator  
1564 West 36<sup>th</sup> Place  
Los Angeles, CA 90018  
License # 198203559  
RCL Level 12

Attention: Alex Sigal-Liberman, Group Home Auditor  
Department of Auditor-Controller, World Trade Center  
Children's Group Home Ombudsman Division  
350 S. Figueroa Street, 8<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Los Angeles CA 90071

April 22, 2009

### CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN

#### V. Psychotropic Medication

**A. Recommendation:** Deliann-Lucile Management maintain current court authorization for all psychotropic medication.

**B. Corrective Action:**

1. Delilu Achievement is working closely with the client placement representatives to ensure what the Psychotropic Medication Authorization Forms (220 and 220A) are submitted to the court for approval every six months.
2. Delilu has contracted with a new Psychiatrist who will supervise, prescribe medication as deemed appropriate.
3. Delilu staff will maintain a log to document our efforts in this regard.
4. As new clients arrive that are already on Psychotropic Medication Delilu will attempt to gain possession of the authorization during the intake process.
5. Delilu's LCSW will ensure that these actions take place.

#### VI. Personal Rights

**A. Recommendation:** Deliann-Lucile Group Home management treat all children with respect and dignity.

**B. Corrective Action:**

1. Delilu Staff members are trained in the proper etiquette and mannerism to use when speaking to our clients. Staff is reminded to remain professional at all times.
2. Staff who fail to adhere to our policy of professionalism will receive appropriate progressive discipline. Failure to benefit from disciplinary measures will be a cause for termination.
3. Delilu's administrator will receive any complaints in this regard and monitor the language usage of the staff.

Signed,

Mary L. Davis

May 13, 2009